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DAILY WEATHER REPORT.

ALEXANDRIA				
Kom-el-Nadoura Observatory.				
Direction of wind	W.
Force of wind	...	...	...	30
State of Sea	...	...	...	2
Barometer corrected	...	...	...	740.0
Evaporation	...	...	...	4
State of Clouds	...	...	...	3
Max. Temp. in the shade	...	...	...	31.0
Min. do.	...	...	...	11.0
Humidity of the air	...	...	...	69
Rainfall	...	...	...	...
Moon rises	...	...	...	6 a.m.
sets	...	...	...	6.16 p.m.

OTHER STATIONS.				
OBSERVATIONS BY SURVEY DEPARTMENT For the 24 hours ending 8 a.m. yesterday.				
Stations.	Max. temp. in the shade.	Min. temp. in the shade.	Stations.	Max. temp. in the shade.
Port Said	18	11	Marowe	27.7
Suez	19	10	Althara	30
Helwan	22	11	Shakin	36
Ghiseh	22.8	8	Khartoum	32
Assiut	31	6	Kassala	34
Assuan	34	9	Wad Medani	38
Wady Halfa	25	4	Djebel	32

FOREIGN STATIONS.				
Stations.	Barom.	Wind	Temp.	State of Sea
Tripoli	742.3	Light	7	Very slight
Malta	750.7	Light	14.8	Moder
Brindisi	767.1	Caln	14.3	Rather rough
Athens	756.6	Almost calm	14.0	Moder.
London	30.7	calm	17.2	Moder.

The Egyptian Gazette

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1907

EGYPT AND ITS FORWARDING AGENTS.

The British Chamber of Commerce of Egypt has received a serious complaint from Mr. Dickson, the Sub-Governor of the National Bank of Egypt, on the subject of the charges of forwarding agents here. The letter of that gentleman is reproduced in another column of to-day's issue and it is to be hoped that it will have some result in remedying the existing abuses. The monthly Journal of the British Chamber of Commerce comments on this document and its remarks are worthy of quotation. "We think," says our contemporary, "we are not very wide of the mark in saying that the majority of residents here, who have had dealings with forwarding agents, have a distinct prejudice against employing the latter in connection with transit of their goods. Although we have not investigated the matter very closely we have nevertheless in the course of a few enquiries come across several men who make it a rule never to ship through a forwarding agent if it can be avoided, and it is, therefore, only natural to assume that the number of such men in Egypt must be fairly considerable—all this, of course, meaning loss of business to the forwarding agents."

"Appropos of the above, the remarks made to the writer by one of the largest retailers in this country—a man dealing almost entirely in English goods—are of some interest. During the course of a conversation he said 'Many years ago I used to have all my goods shipped through a forwarding agent, the total expenses, including duty, running from 20% to 25% of the invoice. After a time I discovered that many of the out-of-pocket expenses, such as dock dues, etc., debited to me on the other side were considerably higher than those actually disbursed, and I then began to do the work myself, with the result that my shipping and duty expenses now only average about 12%.' I cannot say that freights to-day are lower than they were at the time to which I refer, though I believe the agents' charges have been somewhat reduced. Still I invariably reply to a manufacturer or exporter, who wishes to ship goods to me through a forwarding house, that he must pay all expenses himself."

"As we have indicated, the main count in the general indictment against forwarding agents are the excessive charges. In order to hear both sides of the question we recently put the matter before one or two firms here who have had experience as representatives of English forwarding houses. It was admitted to us that in many instances the home expenses certainly did not appear to err on the side of moderation, and that one source of irritation to the customer—when the account was presented to him for payment—was that details of the charges incurred in England were usually not available. On the other hand, it was contended—and perhaps naturally—that the commission and cartage fees here were reasonable, and that, so far as the Egyptian expenses were concerned, there could not be much ground for complaint. When we remember the numerous incidental expenses which have to be paid on a package either to or from Egypt, e.g., sundry cartages, portages in Customs, ship's freight, Custom duties, possible railway charges, agents' commissions, and so forth, it is easy to recognise that, where the contents are not worth very much, the expenses will bear a high ratio to the total value of the goods, though it requires, for example, a little explanation before one is willing to pay with satisfactory feelings a bill of 10/- to 12/- for a whip costing £1. Taking, however, all this into account we venture to think that few people who have dealt with forwarding agents will dissenter from us when we state that there is considerable room for a reduction on very many of the rates now levied."

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LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Bank of Athens.

The board of directors of the Bank of Athens is contemplating the establishment of a new branch of the bank at Khartoum.

The Brindisi Mail.

The mail from Europe, via Brindisi and Port Said, arrived at Alexandria this afternoon and will be distributed at the G. P. O. at 4.30 p.m.

Business Announcement.

The firm of A. Arbib and Sons, "A. Arbib & Fils," of Alexandria and Cairo, will still remain under the same name in spite of the death of Mr. Simeon Arbib.

The Plague.

Yesterday's plague bulletin records two fatal cases at Nag Hamadi, one case at Beni Mazar, three cases (two fatal) and one death at Baharia, and one death at Ismailia.

"Plutus".

The local Greek financial organ of Alexandria, "Plutus," has been purchased by Mr. Daniel Phosca, who intends to publish it fortnightly. We wish our contemporary every success.

"Goniat-Hedou".

This Alexandrian benevolent society will give a grand ball at the French Artistic Union's rooms on Saturday evening next, the 2nd inst. The profits of the ball will go to the funds of the society.

Zizania Theatre.

Owing to the indisposition of Signa Giuseppina Piria who was to have filled the rôle of Musetta in tonight's performance of "La Bohème" in aid of the Maltese Benevolent Society, "Tosca" will be given instead.

Syrian Charitable Society.

The Syrian colony at Tantah has formed a charitable society to succour the poor and sick, help poor girls with dowries, etc. M. Nicolas Aikash has been elected president of the society and a considerable sum has already been subscribed by the charitable members of the colony.

Egyptian Embroideries.

The late fashion in London are hand-painted Egyptian embroideries, the ideal of the connoisseurs being undoubtedly originality and distinction of style in each individual blouse. An example in soft Japanese blue Shantung silk was adorned with wide crossed bands of stone coloured crêpe de chine, painted in curious hieroglyphics, bearing a close resemblance to Egyptian patterns.

A Shocking Accident.

A terrible scene was witnessed at El-Harit station, by Sohag, on Monday. While a fellow was bidding farewell to a friend, who was going away in the train, he fell from the platform and the train passed over him. When the bystanders saw him afterwards he was lying on the line with both his legs cut off and his left hand severed. He was still alive but expired soon after arriving at the hospital.

A Motor Club Wanted.

A motorist writes:—"There are now no less than 136 motors registered at the Alexandria Governorate and their number is increasing additions every week. Why is there no union of motorists at Alexandria which could look after our interests. Only the other day I saw a letter in the "Egyptian Gazette" righty complaining of the abominable state of the asphalt. Surely the best way to protect ourselves would be to form a club at Cairo.

The Capitulations.

A pamphlet on the question of the Capitulations has been published at Alexandria by Mr. Singlitico, who, after reviewing the events of '82 and the conduct of the natives during that crisis, concludes that the time is not yet ripe for the abolition of the capitulations. The writer evidently has not taken the trouble to grasp the summary of Lord Cromer's proposals on this subject contained in his report for the year 1905, as he would then have seen that the safeguards his lordship suggests afford a strong guarantee of European interests.

Arrival of Transport.

The hired transport Sicilia arrived at Alexandria this morning from Southampton with a draft of 137 men for the 1st King's Royal Rifle Corps and other details for the various units of the British garrison. The draft and details destined for Cairo left by special train for the Capital shortly after arrival and arrived there at 3.30 p.m. The Sicilia leaves again this evening for Malta and Southampton taking with her a large number of home going details. Those from Cairo arrived at the quay at 1.15 p.m. and the details of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers marched from Mostapha Pasha to the quay this morning, headed by the regimental band.

Theatre "Tour Eiffel."

For those whose pleasure rests in variety entertainment excellent fare is provided this week at the Theatre Tour Eiffel, in a long and interesting programme. Among the most successful turns are Lampo, who gives a quick change play of the Prigoli type, and Kikada, Japanese juggler, who works wonders with some very ordinary articles. The Sisters Sporting give some taking songs with several graceful dances, while Les D'ag-f contribute several clever turns in balancing and double trapec. The finale is a very hoisterous performance by the Trio Hegris, a knock-about act in every sense of the word. In addition to the above there are solos and duets of the usual music-hall type by several French lady vocalists. The show is well worth a visit.

-DRIFTING TOWARDS CONSCRIPTION.

"TIMES" AND MR. HALDANE'S SCHEME

(Gazette's Special Service.)

LONDON, Tuesday.

The "Times," in an article dealing with army reform, says that Mr. Haldane's territorial force is something approaching a national army. The question, however, remains, Can he secure the necessary men without having recourse to conscription? This, in the opinion of the "Times," is doubtful. Mr. Haldane's scheme represents the last word on the voluntary system.

CAIRO AGRICULTURAL SHOW.

To-morrow the biggest agricultural show ever held in Egypt will be inaugurated at Cairo. The exhibition will be open from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m. to-morrow and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th March. A military band will be in attendance.

A short preliminary description of the show may not be out of place. The building itself is filled with an excellent collection of cottons of the various Moudiriehs, as well as grain. Vegetables are found in a separate kiosk. The Society have many more animals than their shed really accommodates, and this year they have cattle, which they have not had for many years. Horses, mules, donkeys, camels, and sheep are found. A feature of the show is the representation of native industries, woodwork, etc. Natives will be at work at their respective crafts, and 800 metres of cheddig will be occupied by these industries. Technical schools are also exhibiting. Machinery, ploughing tackle, as well as engines, pumps, mills, etc., are shown.

THE LATE MRS. HASELDEN.

The funeral of the late Mrs. Haselden took place at Alexandria yesterday afternoon and was very largely attended by the many friends and acquaintances of the deceased. The service was conducted at the Old British Cemetery by Rev. Canon Ward. Mrs. Haselden was buried in the same grave as her husband. All Mrs. Haselden's children were present and we are requested by them to thank their friends for the many tokens of sympathy they have received.

"Haraldus" writes:—Allow me to correct an error in your edition of yesterday, of little consequence except from an historical point of view. The late Sir Sidney Smith Saunders was British Consul at Alexandria from 1859 to 1864, when he became the first Consul-General for the Ionian islands on their being restored to Greece. He retired in 1870, having been made a C.M.G. in 1860. He was created a Knight Bachelor in 1873. The office of Consul-General for the City and Port of Alexandria was created in 1891 and first held by the late Sir Charles A. Cookson, K.C.M.G. Sir S. M. Saunders, C.M.G., died in 1884.

LECTURE ON WAGNER.

A very interesting lecture upon Wagner and his music was given on Monday afternoon by the Rev. W. S. Gairdner at Connaught House, Cairo, to a very appreciative audience. Mr. Gairdner devoted his attention to Wagner as a musician rather than a dramatist, showing very succinctly the great difference of his works produced before 1880 and those of his latter life, produced after a lapse of three or four years, which period he devoted to study and to developing his ideas. He showed how the earlier works, "The Flying Dutchman," "Tannhäuser," and "Lohengrin," were characterized by melodies nearly always metrical in character, rhythmical in construction, and clearly governed by the words to which they were set; while his later works were of an entirely different character—free melodies with no suggestion of metre nor words, with but little regularity of form, illustrative of abstract thoughts or characters rather than words, and almost invariably interpreted by the orchestra rather than the voice, which was mostly confined to a running recitative. Mr. Gairdner very clearly illustrated the metrical tendency of this early period, showing from examples taken from "Tannhäuser" that the lyrics grouped themselves almost inevitably into quatrains form, which arrangement was almost an obsession of his day and which often resulted in a monotony if not in actual weakness of composition, the music being dominated by the words with more or less conventional cadences. This form of lyric was the conventional one of the day, and Mr. Gairdner showed how Haydn, Mozart, and others broke away from this stereotyped idea by their improvisation on the fragments of certain metrical themes. This he exemplified by the stream of free melody in Mozart's júbilation symphony, and also by Beethoven's symphony in C minor, of which the first four chords build up nearly the whole movement. Though there are certain traces of this use of free melody in some of Wagner's early works they were but experimental, and it was no doubt owing to his years of study and realization of his theories that his later works are so characterized by the development of free melody rather than theory.

It is evident that Mr. Gairdner's knowledge of the subject is extensive enough to give him materials for more lectures than the one we listened to with much pleasure on Monday. Wagner's music is an exhaustive subject; and it Mr. Gairdner can only be persuaded to give further illustrations and explanations which will make it easier of comprehension to the limited understanding his remarks will be received with becoming gratitude by many.

EGYPT IN PARLIAMENT.

LOCAL MONOPOLIES.

QUESTIONS BY MR. ROBERTSON.

LONDON, Wednesday.

Mr. J. M. Robertson, Member for Tyneside, questioned Sir Edward Grey at length in the House of Commons last night in reference to Cairo's water supply, the electric light supply, and the tramway, which, he said, were all monopolies. In reply, Sir Edward Grey stated that similar arrangements existed in England, and it was impossible to interfere actively in such matters. However, the general question of preventing monopolies created against the public interest would not be lost sight of.

EGYPTIAN MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

The leading commercial organ of the great French Mediterranean port, "Le Semaphore de Marseille," in its latest issue, devotes a great deal of attention to the new station "The Egyptian Mail Steamship Company," which it apparently regards as a venture worthy of the serious regard of French shipping interests, despite the fact, as it remarks, that jusqu'ici toutes les tentatives faites par les Anglais pour s'implanter sur la ligne Marseille-Alexandrie ont échoué.

Our Marseille contemporary concludes:—En tout cas, cette nouvelle tentative des Anglais, pour prendre sur la ligne spéciale d'Egypte une place qu'ils ambitionnent de faire, cette fois, première sans conteste, méritait d'être signalée à l'attention de notre monde maritime et commercial, qui ne manquera pas de suivre cet audacieux effort avec le plus vif intérêt.

AFRICAN LANGUAGES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "EGYPTIAN GAZETTE."

Sir.—The importance of language in relation to political and social aspects of the native question in Africa seems liable to be overlooked. The possibility of large groups of tribes, hitherto distinct and mutually antagonistic, becoming rapidly able and eager to understand each other in some common form of speech, has apparently to be taken into account.

Twenty-six years' contact with Swahili and various dialects of Eastern and Central Africa points so far to the conclusion that there is a remarkable degree of similarity, amounting in many important respects to substantial identity, in the grammatical structure of language over the whole vast area occupied by the races of Africa, from the Sudan to the Cape.

The officials, missionaries, traders, settlers and travellers of various nationalities who are qualified to give help in testing this conclusion by personal and first-hand study (of a Bantu dialect are naturally difficult to reach, scattered in remote and often isolated spheres of work. It is, therefore, perhaps justifiable to ask publicity for the request, that persons so qualified and willing to accept and reply to a brief communication on the subject would send me their addresses at Fort Jameson, North-Eastern Rhodesia. I should be grateful if foreign journals and local papers in Africa, general and official, would assist by calling attention to my invitation.

A. C. MADAN

(Student of Christ's Church, Oxford.)
c/o The British South Africa Co.
Fort Jameson, N.E. Rhodesia.

BRITISH RECREATION CLUB, CAIRO.

The first Bachelors' Supper held at the British Recreation Club, Cairo, on Saturday evening last, was a credit alike to the promoters, the bachelors, and the caterers' manager, and Mrs. Holmes. All the tickets were rapidly bought up, and the tastefully decorated supper hall and flower bedecked tables, fully occupied as they were by guests, presented a most picturesque and animated spectacle. The menu (all English) was discussed in a very practical manner after which a toast list and musical programme was submitted, and carried through with rare spirit. The chairman, Mr. Atcheson—or as he is better and more popularly known at the club as Atcheson "Bey"—gave of his best, his sparkling sallies fairly convulsing the assembled company at times. His learned dissertation on Egyptology was a thing to be remembered, his apparent intimate knowledge of the history of the Tombs of the Sacred Bulls somewhat staggering his not too excited audience. He proposed the toast of "The Club," Mr. I-on that of the "Married Members," to which latter Mr. Snow replied. Messrs. Walton, Treasurer, Watt, Hays, Snow, Heywood, Ison, Stevenson, Kimmer, and Band Sergeant Geoghegan, contributed to the musical programmes. Mr. Summers, accompanying in his usual acceptable manner, in addition to rendering sundry pianoforte solos with taste and feeling. Votes of thanks to the chairman; to Mr. Summers; to the manager and Mrs. Holmes; and to all who had contributed to the success of the evening, and the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" and "Glad Save the King," brought a highly successful and harmonious evening to a close.

New Khedivial Hotel, CAIRO.

Family Hotel. Built in 1864. Between Shepherd's Hotel and the Railway Station. Electric Light Lift.
Sanitary arrangements up to date. Open all the year round.
Special terms for Government officials and Army of Occupation.
NEW MANAGEMENT. 9942-93-11-90

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

MEETING TO-MORROW.

The meeting of the members of the General Assembly of the Legislative Council takes place to-morrow. In virtue of the constitutional law of the Egyptian Government, this Assembly meets every two years. The three last occasions on which it met were March 8, 1902, February 22, 1904, and April 3, 1905. The latter was an extraordinary meeting convoked by Khedivial decree as the Government had to submit to the General Assembly a decree relative to the measures to be taken to fight the cotton worm. Although this year the Government has no project of great importance to communicate to the Assembly, the meeting will take place to-morrow in conformity with the organic decree. It will be held with the accustomed ceremony at the Ministry of Public Works. The Khedive will open the sitting and deliver the customary speech. Such curious ignorance, or rather indifference, as to Egyptian institutions that the following remarks on the Assembly which meets to-morrow, taken from Lord Milner's "England in Egypt" (1898 edition) may not be inopportune:—

"The General Assembly is simply the Legislative Council over again, with the addition of the six ministers and of forty-six members popularly elected. This Assembly has no legislative functions, though it is entitled to pass resolutions on any subject of public interest—resolutions which the Government is free to take as much or as little notice of as it pleases. It has, however, one most important power of a negative kind, inasmuch as no new taxes can be imposed without its consent. This is a provision which might evidently some day or other enable the Assembly to play a very considerable part in Egyptian politics. But, since 1883, the Government has been in the fortunate position of not requiring to impose new taxes upon its native subjects, except the tax necessary to facilitate the abolition of the corvée, which, for reasons already explained, the Assembly made no difficulty about accepting. That body, therefore, has not been summoned often than four times since its creation (the organic decree providing that it must meet at least once every two years), and its discussions have generally been brief and colourless. As far as can be judged, its characteristics do not differ materially from those of the Legislative Council, though as the proportion of Government nominees, who form the best element of both bodies, is smaller in the Assembly than in the Council, the decisions of the former would be more likely to prove fantastic and unworkable than those of the latter."

THE SCHOOL OF CADIS.

The regulations of the new School of Cadis were published yesterday afternoon, and the following note has been communicated to the Press by the Ministry of Public Instruction:—

We give below the regulations of the Cadis' School, which have been drawn up by the Ministers of Public Instruction and of Justice, and approved after a minute examination by the Chancellor of Al Azhar University, the Grand Mufti, and several of the ulama. These regulations have been promulgated by Khedivial decree under date of February 25. They are established on the following bases, as shown in the note with reference to the same subject transmitted by the Minister of Education to the Council of Ministers:

1. The students of the School of Cadis will receive from the moment they enter the school a thorough religious education and at the same time will be instructed in the elements of arithmetic, history, geography, calligraphy, etc., and the legal knowledge necessary to enable them to fulfil their functions in the Mekkeh Court.
2. On account of the dependence of the school on the University of Al Azhar and the capacity of the pupils who have completed their course to teach at the said university, the school will create a class of men capable of inspiring general confidence in their religious knowledge and general ability.
3. The school will include two sections, the first of which will train very capable clerks and will serve as a preparatory school for the second class.

THE EASTERN EXCHANGE.

Our Port Said Correspondent writes:—On Monday afternoon the manager of the Eastern Exchange Hotel entertained a large and fashionable gathering, the occasion being the opening of the firm's new tea room, which they have just fitted out on the ground floor at a cost of over £2,000. Some 800 or 400 were served with tea during the afternoon and the manager was the recipient of many well deserved congratulations. Among those present were:—Mouheb Pasha, Khalil Bey Riad, M. Philippides, Schold Bey, Dixon Bey, Snow Bey and Mrs. Snow, Count and Countess Mancinelli Scotti, M. and Mme Ole Stepani, Baron and Baroness de Trauttenberg, Mr. D. A. Cameron, Mr. and Mrs. Lucas Shadwell, Rev. Mrs. and the Misses Strange, Mr. Geo R. C. K. and Mrs. Goy and the Misses Goy, Mr. A. P. Tunstall, Mrs. Dowrie, Mr. W. Broatch, Mr. W. Lichtenberg, and many others.

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

The S.S. Asiatic Prince, with passengers and general cargo, left Malta yesterday, and is due at Alexandria on Saturday.

THE STREET NUISANCES OF CAIRO.

FROM A PEDESTRIAN'S POINT OF VIEW.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "EGYPTIAN GAZETTE."

Sir,—I should like to make some remarks in your columns on the above subject, which seems of interest both to visitors and to those whose welfare is involved in maintaining the popularity of this city as a place of resort. Dividing these remarks under sanitation, traffic, and mendacity.

Firstly—Why is it considered necessary to nurse the various temples dedicated to Ciacina at 10 o'clock on a Sunday morning, which also appears to be the day and hour fixed for baking carpets, etc., out of upper windows? Furthermore, could not the authorities on earned arrange to cleanse the various street refuse-bins before these receptacles become an abomination?

Secondly as to traffic. The Sharia Guineia has been "up" ever since October, asphalt is being laid down, and this affixed street has in rotation presented to the public a sketchy impression of the Bernese Alps, a fair course for an obstacle race, and a spirited representation of the destruction of the Cities of the Plain. This street is also a kind of cyclonic centre for drunken brawls, the gentle folk frequent an Armenian liquor den just off the main street, quarrels in his cup over the favours of one or more of the attendant Hebes, and goes out into the street to fight it out with much bellowing and thrashing of the air with sticks. After the whole neighbourhood has been aroused a shawish comes up and appeals to the principal villain as a man and a brother to go home. This attitude is due to inadequate available force and not to funk, for I have seen an Egyptian policeman make a most determined arrest of an intoxicated Bey whose friends struggled desperately to effect a rescue while the crowd all sympathized or covertly impeded the arrest. However, the policeman kept his temper and his man, and without drawing his truncheon eventually marched his bey-hip off to the caracol.

Before leaving the police, it might be asked why they do not, when issuing licenses to arabghis, insist on some test of driving and topography. The local Jehu has no idea of either, and having also no "hank," plies the whip savagely and carelessly to cover his defects (printer please note that this is not a paradox). Accidents would be more frequent if the horses were not underled and the pace slow. He is however a sportsman in his way, and his chief recreation consists in endeavouring to "run down" well-dressed Europeans. It soothes his racial antipathies and even if he can't bag his man he can splash him with mud or cover him with dust according to local atmospheric conditions, or if he has a clear street before him and the khawagah does not look like a "sprinter," he can slash him over the face with his whip. It is a safe amusement, too, for most Europeans know better than take the case up. A month ago an arabghi came up behind me along the Sharia Kamel and with the whole road to spare hugged the right side and, without a word of warning I felt his off horse's shoulder cannon into mine; he had plenty of space but having some experience in "riding off" I got clear of his hoofs and the wheels, but still it was not a bad attempt. In that same street shortly after, a friend of mine—an Englishman—had much the same experience. He put up his hands instinctively to ward off the impact, and the driver slashed at him viciously with his whip as he passed. Stung and indignant, my friend gave chase to get the man's number. The vehicle turned up a side street and stopped. Finding no number on the carriage (it was afterwards found to belong to one of the hotels) he accosted the arabghi and on the latter refusing to give any account of himself proceeded to arrest him. There was a scuffle and the Englishman was dropped with a deftly flung stone on the temple. Being real grit he picked himself up, closed with his man, and held him till a policeman came up, nor did he flinch any further violence on the man after apprehending him. He, however, had no evidence while the very horses were, I believe, prepared to give testimony on the other side, also the policeman, whom my friend had omitted to win over. He was afterwards summoned by the arabghi for assault and fined £5 and 30 cents. As an indication of the ethics of the case, it may be mentioned that when the galleus arabghi turned up smiling to receive the award of virtue bagged a month's imprisonment. Moral: accept any indignity sooner than retaliate on legal lines.

As the arabghi, so is the donkey boy—a class that used to be recruited from bright, intelligent youngsters, but which is composed chiefly now of bulking, lusty men who form a public nuisance to pedestrians and a menace to any defenceless or nervous client. No Englishman resident in Cairo ever hires a donkey boy's services. He knows what it implies. But I have often seen single soldiers being mobbed by these brutes, until of course other soldiers appeared, when there was a prompt stampede.

Lastly we have to consider the curse of Cairo: mendacity in all its branches. I will only cite a few cases. The little girls with untidy shoes who pester you to buy lottery tickets. The barking shoe blacks who, in defiance of police law, pursue their calling quite unchecked—and range between 20 and 30 years of age. The much paralytic and epileptic (chiefly southern Europeans, I fear). The itinerant toy-vendor who lands an imitation jumping rabbit slay into your cup of coffee. The street musician I will pass over for some of them can play and sing well but some deserve a leather chamber, and there are the ones that badger you for small change. The hideously deformed,

the able-bodied cripple—with or without locomotive appliances—and worse, far worse than all—the starving, maimed, and suffering children with parents—or other adults in that guise—watching them from some point of vantage.

There is now on the streets of Cairo a tall, fine-looking fellow about thirty years of age, who leads by the hand an emaciated, fifty little girl, a mere child of five or so. She has her feet turned inwards and her legs are too weak to support her body for any distance. The man comes to a café or open bar, gives the child a push and in she staggers, falls on her knees, with her contorted limbs doubled under her, and whines shrilly. When she comes out the man takes what she has in cash, throws any food away that she may have received, and drags her along to the next likely resort. If the couple meet a respectably dressed pedestrian moving slowly along some more or less deserted street the same process is gone through with the same result. I have given the unfortunate child money, and food, as many others do, but I determined to watch the proceedings, with the above result. The man I have often seen without his stock-in-trade, the centre of a large and gregarious throng at one of the lower-class cafés and, apparently, at once the host and entertainer of the party. Fudge!! It is enough to make a hyena sick to think of it.

Is there no remedy? Is this influx of mendicants in the tourist season too great for the police to cope with—or is no effort made to keep such people within the bounds of ordinary decency and humanity? I regret the length of this article, nor am I perhaps the best person to write on such subjects, but if I can thereby prevent the maltreatment and exploitation of one wretched child, I shall feel that it has not been written in vain. The travelling upper-classes, who form the mainstay of Cairo's wealth, and who presumably have such delicacy and sympathy as a liberal education should give, are hardly likely to look with favour on a city where such scenes are so common, and disgusting experiences are of daily occurrence, and practically unavoidable.—Yours faithfully,
ABDALLAH MANSUR.

PERSONAL AND SOCIAL.

This morning's telegrams show that the gallantry of Prince Henry of the Netherlands at the wreck of the Berlin has been warmly appreciated in England. The Prince married Queen Wilhelmina in 1901. He belongs to the House of Mecklenburg-Schwerin and was born in 1876.

We regret to learn that Princess Nazli Hanem Padi has suffered a relapse and her condition inspires some anxiety.

Fathi Bey Zughloul, the new Under Secretary to the Ministry of Justice, visited that Ministry on Monday, accompanied by the Judicial Adviser.

The Judicial Adviser left on Monday evening for a tour of inspection in Lower Egypt, accompanied by Abderrahman Bey Rida.

Mr. Hobler, late of the British Agency, Cairo, is proceeding to Adis Ababa to take over the official duties of Sir John Harrington, Minister Plenipotentiary and Consul General, during the latter's absence from Abyssinia on leave.

Hussein Pasha Moharrem, Chief A. D. C. to the Khedive, has not retired on pension, as reported. It is his brother, Dr. Hussein Bey Moharrem, who has retired from his Highness's service.

Mr. Wells, Inspector of Mines, will leave Cairo shortly for Kaneh and thence proceed to the Red Sea Coast, where he will inspect the mining concessions.

Among the latest visitors staying at the Carlton Hotel, Rumbek, are the following:—Miss Macdonald, Dr. and Mrs. H. Argiris, Miss L. Broadhurst, Miss E. Broadhurst, Mrs. G. S. Willmore, Miss M. Caillard, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Bigelow, Mr. and Mrs. Schmid Wörner, Mr. F. B. Roff, Mrs. S. Cumbo, Misses Cumbo, Mrs. R. Trelow, Mrs. E. Guerry, Mr. G. Guerry, Mr. and Mrs. M. Anstin, Lieut. E. B. Meriman, Lieut. F. B. Nixson, Mr. T. D. Nicolais, Mrs. Saopoulo, Misses Saopoulo, Rev. and M. B. M. Salter, Miss A. B. M. Salter, Mrs. K. J. Trelawny, Rev. A. H. Blaby, Miss Blaby, Mr. P. Nicolaide, Mr. E. Kerr, Capt. Connel, Lieut. Warde Aldam, Mrs. E. Macmaldrow, Miss Macmaldrow, Mr. J. Saris.

WINDSOR HOTEL.

Facing the Sea on the New Quay of Alexandria
FIRST-CLASS HOTEL.
Lately Built and Furnished.
TERMS P.T. 50 PER DAY.
Special terms to Government Officials.

CARLTON HOTEL

WINDLEY (near Alexandria) half way to San Stefano
RAMLEY'S FASHIONABLE HOTEL.
Full Pension P.T. 50 a day with Monthly Terms
Visitors from Cairo night of 100 Sh.
Residence Luncheon, P.T. 10.—Dinner, P.T. 20.
Proprietor, C. AQUILINA. (late of the P. & T. 50)

A KHEDIVIAL VISIT.

They incite their animals by twos until they fly in a mad gallop across the plain. The red turban flies up, shouts of joy attract attention, and the rifles of the riders give thundering reports. These riders are followed by other couples until the roughness of the road puts a stop to the game. Beduin tents border the road more frequently than in other seasons, because many nomads bring their beasts to graze in this poorly cultivated region. After having crossed the Wadi Midwar, which is a green, narrow valley leading directly to the Mediterranean, one goes to the Wadi R-mi, the lower part and slopes of which show the corrosive activity of the water with wide ghama. Here rocks hamper the traveller's progress and that is why a short rest is taken when the

BOYCH
at Hotel Cairo, and at Walker & Helwan's, Alexandria,
as **ENDDIVE**.
at the Hotel Cairo and all the High Life of Egypt.

ARMY AND NAVY.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

London, February 16.

Major J. A. Asker, who has been placed on half-pay from the Dorset Regiment, on electing to continue in the Khedive's service, in which he has completed ten years, was associated with that regiment for over nineteen years, and has the Nile Expedition, 1905 (mentioned in despatches, Egyptian medal with clasp); Nile Expedition, 1898, in which he was a brigade major, including the battles of Atbara and Khartoum (mentioned twice in despatches, brevet majority, medal, two clasps); and the Nile Expedition, 1899 (clasp), to his credit. Asker Bey has been latterly employed as Station Commandant at Khartoum.

Devonport on the 4th March, and re-commissioned the same day as flagship of Vice Admiral Sir Charles C. Drury, K.C.B., K.C.S.I., the new Commander in Chief of that fleet. The Queen, which has saved her maiden commission in the Mediterranean, carries a crew of 789 of all ranks as flagship.

The cruises Aboukir will be brought up to full complement at Devonport on the 5th March and after hoisting the pennant and completing commissioning and gunnery trials, will proceed to the Mediterranean to join the third cruiser squadron. The Aboukir was on the same station, 1902-05.

SUEZ CANAL CHARGES.

AUSTRALIAN CRITICISM.

The correspondence between the Federal Prime Minister and the Colonial Office on the Suez Canal charges has attracted a great deal of notice in the Australian press. The tone of the Government or Liberal Protectionist papers is quite bitter, and shows that in the present state of commercial and political opinion in Australia the utmost care must be taken in the framing of despatches from the Colonial Office if offence is to be avoided. The complaint made over this correspondence is that the Imperial Government reveals an utter callousness when any attempt is made to reduce Suez Canal charges to an extent which would affect dividends. The position of the Board of Trade and the Treasury is put thus by the "Melbourne Age":—"They do not think anything should be done to lessen the profits of the shareholders. A more cynical answer and one less in touch with Imperial sentiment cannot be conceived. British trade constitutes the bulk of the canal traffic. It is that trade, therefore, which puts these high dividends into the hands of the foreign and British shareholders. It is that trade which is mostly hampered, Australia being one of the chief sufferers. Nothing, says Lord Elgin, must be done to cheapen the charges without due regard to the interests of those who have a purely financial concern in the affairs of the Suez Canal. This is probably the first time that so bold a claim has been made for the right of a monopolistic company to exploit at its will the interests of the trade of the world; and that claim is made by a British Minister, a champion of the doctrine of striking off trade shackles."

The "Age's" view obtains wide endorsement, especially amongst traders in perishable products intended for the British market. The Australian leaders in his trade assert that Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, and West of England cities would get their Australian hinter, lamb, rabbits, etc., appreciably cheaper if the canal dues were reduced, as they are under a pledge to give to the English buyer the difference made in their freight charges.

Hamburg & Anglo-American NILE COMPANY.
River Transport of Goods between Alexandria and Cairo.
THREE SAILINGS A-WEEK.
Agents at Alexandria
ALEXANDRIA WAREHOUSE CO., LTD.
30-31-307

Orders have been issued for the battleship Queen, Captain Lewis Bayly, on arrival home from the Mediterranean Station, to pay off at

MR. ROBERTSON, M. P.

MR. DICEY'S APPRECIATIONS.

Mr. Dicey sends the following account of Mr. Robertson to the "Daily Telegraph" in one of his weekly letters from Cairo to that paper:—"Mr. John Malcolm Robertson, M.P. for Tyneside, left Cairo yesterday for London. His stay here has attracted considerable attention, as he was supposed to have letters of introduction from leading members of the Ministry and the Liberal party, and to have a sort of semi-official mission to report about the 'unrest in Egypt' and the Denahawi outrages. I have no right whatever to say that Mr. Robertson ever laid claim to any mission of any kind. But the bare fact that an English member of Parliament, who was understood to have expressed disapproval of the action taken by the British authorities, had avowed his intention of investigating the evidence available concerning the Denahawi outrage on the spot, was quite sufficient to cause rumours of impending changes in the relations of England and Egypt under a Radical Ministry being circulated widely at Cairo, and swallowed greedily. Mr. Robertson struck me as being a shrewd, hard-headed Scotchman, who obviously had no intention of letting anybody know what he intended saying or doing on his return to England. I told him when he did me the compliment of calling on me—as a fellow-publicist, who had had long acquaintance with Egyptian affairs—that I thought it very difficult to obtain any trustworthy information during a short sojourn. But beyond this I did not feel justified in criticising beforehand the character of the information he had acquired without knowing in the least what the character of this information was, and what conclusion he drew therefrom. On the night before his departure a dinner was given to him by a number of Egyptian journalists, with most of whom I am personally acquainted. To this I was invited as a guest. Having ascertained that politics were to be excluded from discussion, I thought it no unwise and unwise to refuse their invitation. At the dinner I was called upon to return thanks for the guests. The speech I made represents, I think, the commonsense view which a staunch and persistent advocate of British supremacy in Egypt, as I have been for over forty years, takes of the existing situation of the country."

Commercial & Financial Supplement OF THE "Egyptian Gazette."

The Commercial and Financial Supplement of the "Egyptian Gazette" is published at midday every Saturday in time for the Austrian Lloyd's mail. The supplement contains exhaustive and important reviews of the cotton, cotton seed, and stock and share markets, with all the latest statistics up to the evening of the preceding day, complete tabular forms of the various market fluctuations, and the copies of the official telegrams of the Liverpool Cotton Association, etc., etc. Subscription for one year P.T. 100 (inclusive of postage in Egypt for abroad the postage is P.T. 10 extra). For further particulars apply to the Manager of the "Egyptian Gazette."

NATIONAL BANK OF EGYPT.

AVIS

Messieurs les Actionnaires de la National Bank of Egypt sont convoqués en Assemblée Générale Ordinaire pour le samedi 23 mars 1907, à 3.30 de l'après-midi, au siège social, au Caire.

ORDRE DU JOUR

Rapport du Conseil d'Administration.
Rapport des Censeurs.
Approbation des comptes de l'exercice clos le 31 décembre 1906.
Fixation du dividende.
Renouvellement partiel du Conseil d'Administration.
Election des censeurs pour l'exercice 1907.
Fixation de l'indemnité des Censeurs.

Tout actionnaire possédant au moins vingt actions a droit de prendre part à l'Assemblée Générale à condition de déposer ses actions dans l'un des lieux ci-après désignés où il lui sera délivré une carte d'admission :

En Egypte, cinq jours au moins avant le jour de la réunion, soit le 16 mars au plus tard : au siège social, au Caire ; à la succursale d'Alexandrie ; aux Agences de la Banque à Assiout, Assouan, Benha, Beni Souef, Chebin el Kham, Damahour, Fayoum, Keneh, Mansourah, Minieh, Luxor, Port Said, Sohag, Tantah, Zagazig et Mouky (Caire) ; et dans les établissements de banque suivants du Caire et d'Alexandrie : Anglo-Egyptian Bank, Bank of Egypt, Banque d'Atbaner, Banque Impériale Ottomanne, Banque d'Orient, Banque de Salonique, Cassa di Sconto e di Riscatto, Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris, Crédit Lyonnais, Deutsche Orientbank A. G.

En Europe, au plus tard le 14 mars : à Paris et à Marseille aux bureaux de la "Société Marseillaise" ; en Italie dans les Bureaux de la "Banca Commerciale Italiana" ; à Londres, à l'Agence de la National Bank of Egypt, 4 & 5 King William Street.

Le Caire, le 20 Février 1907.

Le Gouverneur,

F. T. ROWLATTE.

29607-10-4

The New Egyptian Company, Limited.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the sixth Ordinary General Meeting of the members of the NEW EGYPTIAN COMPANY, LIMITED, will be held on Friday the 8th day of March 1907 at 3 p.m. at the Cannon Street Hotel in the City of London, to receive the Report of the Directors, to appoint Auditors, and to transact the ordinary business of the Company.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be closed from February 21st to March 8th, both days inclusive.

Dated the 21st day of February, 1907.

By Order of the Board,

THOMAS DAY, Secretary.

TO ENABLE holders of SHARE WARRANTS TO BEARER to vote, they must deposit their warrants at the offices of the Company, 24, Clement's Lane, London, E.C., on or before 5th day of March 1907, or at the Cairo office, 2, Sharia Zeynoudin, on or before 27th day of February, 1907. 29624-2*2

Steam Ploughing Machinery.

NOTICE.

Messrs. Allen, Alderson & Co., Limited, Alexandria and Cairo, have the pleasure to advise their friends and all persons interested in agriculture that Mr. Alfred Fowler, a director of Messrs. John Fowler & Co., Ltd., the well known makers of steam ploughing machinery, is now in Cairo, as is also Mr. H. C. Deburghet, an engineer and expert of the same firm. Mr. Fowler is staying at the Savoy Hotel, Cairo, and Mr. Deburghet at Shepherd's. Both gentlemen, who have a large and varied experience all over the world, will be very pleased to inspect estates at their own expense entirely, and advise as to the best steam cultivating machinery to be employed to obtain the best results at the cheapest cost. Messrs. John Fowler & Co., Ltd., will have a good display of their steam ploughing machinery at the Cairo Show from the 28th February to the 4th March, and will be pleased to give every information to interested persons. 29629-3-2

Municipalité d'Alexandrie

AVIS

La Municipalité met en adjudication la fourniture des divers articles de droguerie, désinfection et autres, nécessaires à ses services pour trois années à partir du 1er Avril 1907 au 30 Mars 1910.

Le cahier des charges est déposé au bureau de l'Inspectorat Sanitaire où il peut être consulté par les intéressés tous les jours de 9 h. à midi, les jours fériés exceptés.

Les offres devront être adressées sous pli cacheté à Monsieur l'Administrateur de la Municipalité avant le 19 Mars 1907.

Elles pourront également être déposées en séance de la Délégation le même jour à 5 h. p.m. L'enveloppe devra porter en outre la mention : "Soumission pour articles de droguerie et autres."

Le cautionnement ou la reçu d'une banque, d'après les conditions du cahier des charges, devra être remis séparément au Service de la Comptabilité Générale avant l'ouverture des offres et au plus tard le 19 Mars 1907 à midi. Toute offre qui ne remplirait pas les conditions ci-dessus sera écartée.

L'Administrateur

(Signé) W. P. CHATAWAY.

Alexandrie, le 28 Février 1907. 29630-8-2

Cheap Prepaid Advertisements.

Under this heading advertisements are inserted at the following rates:—

	ONCE	3 TIMES	6 TIMES
15 words	P.T. 5	P.T. 10	P.T. 15
30 words	" 3	" 18	" 24
Every 10 words, beyond 30.	" 2	" 4	" 6

The address is counted. The advertisement must appear on consecutive days for above rates to be obtained. 50% extra is charged, the advertisements not appearing consecutively.

ALEXANDRIA'S NEW RESTAURANT.
We hereby beg to inform our clients, that the "Grand Restaurant l'Egypte" will be transferred to the Old Bourse Palace (1st Floor) on the 2nd February at 6 p.m. Entrance St. Mark's street. JOHN MELACHRINO AND K. ZOZOPOULOS, Proprietors. 29466-24-21

ANY lady or gentleman desirous of learning Arabic language in the shortest possible time should write to No. 29647, "Egyptian Gazette" offices. 29647-6-2

BONNE CUISINIÈRE et femme de chambre, mais qui ne fait pas la lessive, demande place chez un, deux, ou trois Messieurs seuls ; parle Allemand et Italien ; aux appointements de trois livres Anglaises au minimum. Adresser lettres poste française Méry L. 29638-6-2

CRICKET.—Roberts, Hughes & Co. have a fine lot of Bats by best makers and all requisites for the game.

CHIEF DRAUGHTSMAN & ENGINEER from Clyde district, wants situation in drawing office, or assisting in workshop management, in Egypt. Modern machine shop, pattern shop and foundry practice. American and British experience; first-class designer, excellent references. Apply to A. W. Murdoch, Birket el Sab. 29633-6-3

DEMOISELLE française nouvellement arrivée, âgée de 45 ans, demande place auprès d'enfants, âgés d'au moins 6 ans ; peut aussi enseigner Dame de compagnie ou dame de confiance. Voyagerait avec famille. Adresser lettres, Poste française Mlle Désirée L.C. 29639-6-2

ENGLISH ACCOUNTANT, disengaged in the afternoon, seeks position in Cairo. Highest local references. Apply, No. 29612, "Egyptian Gazette." 29612-7-6

ENGLISH Conversation wanted. Paid for or exchanged with French lessons. Apply No. 29637 "Egyptian Gazette" offices. 29637-6-2

ENGLISH LADY about to live at Pont de Koubbeh, Cairo, requires English Governess. Entire charge boy and girl 7 and 9 years. Strong, used to travelling, experienced, knowledge of kindergarten and calisthenics. Good sailor preferable. Write X, Hotel d'Angleterre, Cairo. 29636-6-2

FOR SALE—A coffre-fort (Fiche) almost new. Owner leaving Alexandria. Apply at Mr. Glymenopoulos's offices, No. 6, rue de l'Ancienne Bourse. 29628-6-5

GREEK YOUNG MAN, knowing French, English and Turkish, seeks position in a commercial firm. Good references. Apply, No. 29635, "Egyptian Gazette" offices. 29635-6-3

HEAD CHAMBERMAID wanted for a first-class hotel in the City State experience and knowledge of languages. Salary £5 per month. Address No. 29599, "Egyptian Gazette" offices. 29599-6-6

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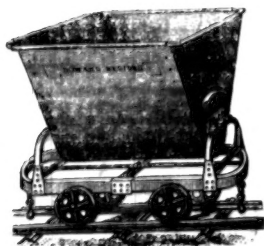
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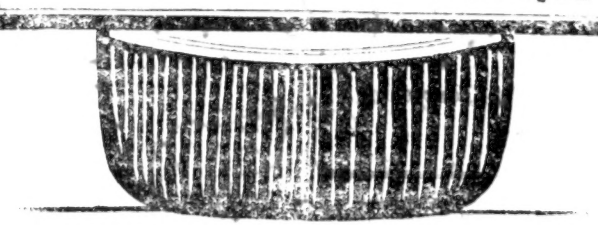
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